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CONFERENCE ON DEVELOPMENT OF A PROGRAM FOR AGRICULTURE
UNDER THE SOIL CONSERVATION AND DOMESTIC ALLOTMENT ACT
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, MARCH 5, 6, and 7

Farmers, farmers' representatives and those concerned with administration problems have been invited to attend this and other regional conferences to advise and assist officials of the United States Department of Agriculture on the development of a national agricultural program for 1936 under the provisions of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act.

The list of states represented in the invitations issued for the Chicago conference includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Among those invited to attend the conference from each of the states of this region are representative farmers, representatives of the leading farm organizations, representatives of the Land Grant Colleges, State Commissioners of Agriculture, State Supervisors of Vocational Agricultural Education, and editors of the leading farm journals.

Secretary of Agriculture, Henry A. Wallace will attend the Chicago, Memphis and New York conferences at some time before they are concluded. The group of officials of the United States Department of Agriculture which will be in attendance throughout the Chicago

conference is headed by M. L. Wilson, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, and includes C. W. Warburton, Director of the Federal Agricultural Extension Service, Prew Savoy, of the Legal Division and O. E. Reed, Chief of the Bureau of Dairy Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and W. I. Callander, G. B. Thorne, and G. E. Farrell of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

It is expected that the first day of the conference will be devoted to consideration of the agricultural situation, provisions of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, and features of the program to be developed for 1936. It is expected that committees to consider the problems peculiar to the various commodities and regions will be formed, and that their recommendations will be requested.

In general, the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act provides for preservation and improvement of national soil resources, reestablishment and maintenance of farmers' purchasing power, assurance of adequate supplies of foods and fibers for consumers, and the protection of rivers and harbors against the effects of soil erosion.

Temporary Federal aid in the form of payments direct to individual farmers to assist voluntary action by them, designed to accomplish the soil conservation purposes, is authorized until state plans are ready or until January 1, 1938. Commencing in 1938, grants will be made only to states, upon approval of state programs by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the Act. These state plans are to include as a principal objective the reestablishment of farmers' purchasing power, and may provide for

production control.

Under the temporary plan of Federal aid, the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to make soil conservation payments to producers measured by (1) their treatment or use of land for soil restoration, conservation, or erosion prevention, (2) changes in the use of their land, and (3) the domestic allotment of one or more designated commodities. Productivity of the land affected, measured by changes in use of land or treatment of land for soil conservation, is to be taken into consideration in making payments.

The Act contains a requirement that the interests of share-croppers, tenants, and small producers be protected, and tenants and share-croppers are specifically included in the Act as agricultural producers.

The Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to utilize county and community committees of agricultural producers in carrying out its provisions.

The August, 1909-July 1914 balance between agricultural and non-agricultural living standards, as measured by the relative purchasing power of the net income per person on farms and the income per person not on farms, is the objective in reestablishing and maintaining farm income.

Authorization is included for the use of funds for expansion of domestic and foreign markets or for seeking new markets for agricultural commodities or for removal or disposition of agricultural surpluses.

Provision for administration by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration is contained in the Act.

Under the permanent policy providing grants to states, which may be made immediately upon approval of state plans, the state plans must include provisions for a state administrative agency authorized by the state and agreed upon by the Secretary and the State concerned. State plans must also include provisions for participation by county and community committees or associations of producers organized for the purpose, and provisions for submitting such reports as the Secretary finds necessary to assure that the plan is being carried out.

The Act has been passed by both houses of Congress and signed by the President. This and other regional conferences are intended to assist in rapid development of a program.

Regional Conference on Proposed Program
under Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act

Chicago, Illinois, March 5, 6, and 7, 1936

REPORT OF COMMITTEE FOR CLASSIFICATION OF CROPS INTO
SOIL CONSERVING AND SOIL DEPLETING GROUP

W. A. Long, Fowler, Kans. - Chairman
Harry Muir, Winnebago, Minn.
James Paulsen, Tulare, S. D.
E. Ralph Tratt, White Water, Wis.
O. J. Odegaard, Princeton, Minn.
Elmer Kruse, St. Marys, Ohio
Sherman Stookey, Belleville, Ill.
Alva F. Troyer, LaFontaine, Ind.
Guy W. Smith, Russell, Ia.
O. O. Wolf, Manhattan, Kas.
Frank Peck, St. Paul, Minn.

H. L. Walster, Fargo, N. D.
C. V. Ballard, East Lansing, Mich.
P. H. Stewart, Lincoln, Nebr.
A. T. Wiancko, Lafayette, Ind.
Charles L. Hill, Madison, Wisc.
R. A. Trovatten, St. Paul, Minn.
L. W. Sasman, Madison, Wis.
Paul Calrow, St. Paul, Minn.
W. A. Cochel, Kansas City, Mo.
Tom Leadley, Lincoln, Nebr.

The functions of this committee were to consider the tentative recommendations of the Department committee and the available information, and bring in a report covering the twelve states represented at the conference indicating the crops and uses which should be considered as (one) soil building and (two) soil depleting.

After considerable discussion of the problem at hand, it became apparent that local practices existed in certain areas which should have State study and adjustment on the basis of types of farming areas. The following recommendation was passed:

That we adopt a broad classification of crops and practices and recommend that each state be permitted to submit modifications for the consideration of the Secretary of Agriculture.

We further recommend that these suggested modifications be submitted as soon as possible.

CLASSIFICATION OF CROPS OF THE NORTH CENTRAL REGION
INTO SOIL DEPLETING AND SOIL CONSERVING GROUPS

(Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan)

MAJOR SOIL DEPLETING CROPS
For Entire Region

Corn, Tobacco,
Potatoes,
Sugar Beets,
Sorghums,
Broom Corn,
Field beans, Wheat
Oats, Rye, Barley
Flax, (mixed grains)
Buckwheat, cotton
Emmer & Spelts

Soybeans & cow peas for
grain or hay
Cultivated truck and canning
crops
Cultivated orchards, vineyards &
small fruit
Hemp & other clean tilled hill or
row crops
Millets and Sudan grass for
hay or seed.

PRACTICES FOR SOIL RESTORATION, CONSERVATION AND EROSION PREVENTION,
AND CHANGES IN USE OF LAND--BASIS FOR PAYMENTS TO PRODUCERS

For Entire Region

For Type of Farming Areas
Practices that should re-
ceive major emphasis.

Permanent pasture* of adapted grass
and legume mixtures.

Hay (meadow) crops* such as alfalfa,
sweet clover, clover, clover & timothy,
lespedeza and similar crops.

Pasture-improvement projects, re-seeding,
fertilizing, liming, controlled grazing.

Perennial grasses for hay* (meadow)
crop improvement projects.

Close-seeded crops used for pasture
in rotation.

Cover & green-manuring crops - close-
drilled or broadcast, (no pasturage)
soybeans.

cow peas,

vetch & rye

Non-legumes grown solely for green-
manure,

field peas and similar crops

Special erosion control practices
cover and strip farming # (See notation)

Woodlots for timber, posts, windbreaks,
and wild life.

Perennial weed eradication practices approv-
ed by State Experiment Station.

5. Dairy

pasture & hay crops
pasture improvement
rotation pastures

6. Corn Belt

Pasture & hay crops
rotation pastures
erosion control practices #
farm woodlots

2. Fruit & Mixed Farming

Cover and green-manuring
crops, erosion control projects

10. Special crops

cover & green-manuring
crops, rotation pasture.

7. General Farming

Pasture & Hay crops
Rotation pastures
Erosion control practices #
Farm woodlots

4. Wheat and Small Grains

Hay & pasture crops
rotation pastures
erosion control practices #
cultivated summer fallow &
wide spacing.

3. Range Livestock

Range improvement practices
seeding adapted grasses &
legumes, erosion control
practices #

8. Cotton

cover & green-manuring crop
Erosion control practices #

* Small grain nurse crops when pastured, clipped or cut green for hay
shall be considered as soil conserving crops.

It is recommended that special erosion control practices such as strip
cropping, terracing, contour farming, ponds and dams, as approved for
the different types of farm areas, be recognized as a basis for payment.

Regional Conference on Proposed Program
under
Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act

Chicago, Illinois
March 5, 6, 7

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON
DETERMINATION OF BASES AND CONDITIONS OF PAYMENT

The Committee appointed to recommend policies for Determination of Bases and Conditions of Payment wish to submit to the Committee of the Whole the following recommendations:

The Committee wish in making these recommendations to stress the fact that they are to be considered as involving or outlining only general principles, and that these principles will need to be modified in order to be applicable to varying conditions and different types of farming which it is recognized exist between states and between counties within states, and to allow for unusual circumstances which may affect individual producers.

- (1) We recommend that only two classifications of crops be recognized - (1) soil depleting crops and (2) soil conserving crops, the total of these classifications being equivalent to the total rotated crop land base. It will thus be necessary to determine only two bases on each farm - the soil depleting acreage and the soil conserving acreage.
- (2) We recommend that the following be accepted as principles: (1) that farmers who adopt soil conserving practices in 1936 be rewarded for adopting such methods, and (2) that farmers who are already following systems of farming which prevent soil erosion and conserve and maintain soil fertility be rewarded for continuing such practices. Methods of achieving these objectives would be as follows:
 - (a) For farms which had in 1935 a lower ratio of soil conserving crops to all rotated crop land than the average for the county, the soil conserving base would be the actual acreage of such crops on the farm at that time, with such modifications as are necessary to provide for unusual circumstances which may affect individual producers;
 - (b) For farms which had in 1935 as high or higher ratio of soil conserving crops to all rotated crop land than the average for the county, the base for soil conserving crops on the farm would be the county average;

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(c) Payments would be made to each farmer in Group A, (those who had a smaller percentage of their crop land devoted to soil improving crops than the average for the county) for devoting such percentage of his total rotated crop land, in addition to his soil conserving base, to soil conserving crops as may be necessary, in the aggregate, to bring about the desired adjustment in the region. Individual producers would be allowed a range above and below this percentage.

Payments would be made to each farmer in Group B (those who had a percentage of their crop land devoted to soil improving crops equal to or greater than the average for the county) for each acre above the soil conserving base on his farm up to a percentage of the total rotated crop land in his farm which represents the percentage that has been determined, in the aggregate, to bring about the desired adjustment in the region.

It is further recommended that rates of payment to farmers in both Groups A and B be determined by the amount of money available and the aggregate increase desired in the acreage of soil improving crops in the North Central States.

- (3) We recommend that producers in Group B (those who had a percentage of their crop land devoted to soil improving crops equal to, or greater than, the average for the county) receive a maintenance payment for any acreage found to be in soil conserving crops in 1936 in excess of the county average plus a percentage of their rotated crop land equal to the additional percentage of the total rotated crop land in the North Central States that has been determined will bring about the desired increase in soil conserving crops in the region; provided, however, that such additional acreage was also in soil improving crops in 1935. It is further recommended that the per-acre rate of such maintenance payments be ten percent of the per-acre rate for diversion from soil depleting to soil conserving crops.
- (4) It is recommended, irrespective of the soil conserving crops planted in 1936 or soil conserving practices adopted in 1936, that rates of payment vary only in accordance with the productivity of the land.
- (5) We recommend that reasonable county limits should be established in order to prevent inflation of the soil depleting crop base.
- (6) The Committee recommends that wide latitude be given State Committees in administering the conservation program within the States and that similar authority be vested in county committees in applying the general principles of the program to individual cooperating farmers within their respective counties, provided, however, that all such authority be exercised only under such general regulations as will insure the carrying out of the spirit and purposes of the program and assure its effectiveness.

Committee on Determination of Bases and Conditions of Payment

Earl C. Smith, Chairman
Chicago, Ill.

R. M. Evans	Ia.	C. H. Bramble	Mich.
Fred Huntzicker	Wisc.	J. W. Burch	Mo.
H. B. Tabb	Ill.	R. K. Bliss	Ia.
D. D. Clark	Nebr.	H. J. Umberger	Kans.
H. A. Praeger	Kans.	W. W. McLaughlin	Ill.
John Bumgarner	Ill.	J. C. Mohler	Kans.
Asher Hobson	Wisc.	A. W. Ricker	Minn.
Cal Ward	Kans.	Charles Hill	Wisc.
Chas. Hill	Wisc.	L. E. Hoffman	Ind.
Sam Lassen	S. D.	H. B. Test	S. D.
C. C. Talbott	N. D.	Guy Dowdy	Ohio

Regional Conference on Proposed Program
under
Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act

Chicago, Illinois
March 5, 6, 7

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON
FARMER'S APPLICATION OR WORK-SHEET

Phil Smith, Bachelor, Mo. - Chairman
F. A. Kirkpatrick, Frankfort, Ind.
Carl Horn, Hay Springs, Neb.
Andrew Robbie, Cavalier, N. D.
Morris A. Doan, Pompeii, Mich.
Ralph Smith, Newton, Iowa
W. F. Katerhenry, Beloit, Wis.

Joe Callahan, Kankakee, Ill.
J. W. Waichet, Columbus, O.
R. D. Davies, Brookings, S. D.
W. W. Clark, Madison, Wis.
C. A. Russell, Pierre, S. D.
L. D. Clements, Lincoln, Nebr.
L. B. Follon, Topeka, Kans.

Your committee on farmer's application or work sheet was asked to discuss and recommend the advisability of having applications or work sheets, what such forms might be called, when and how such forms might be filled out, and what the contents of such forms might be.

We wish to report as follows:

1. The first point discussed was the problem of perfecting the soil conservation association in each county. Assuming that the first step might be taken by a temporary county committee, it was thought desirable to obtain a registration of those producers interested in forming an association. A registration card is recommended. The wording might be as follows:

Registration Card

I wish to become a member of the _____ county soil conservation association, to vote in the election of a community committee representing the community in which I am farming in 1936, and to apply for the services of the association in taking part in the soil conservation program in 1936, as provided in the Soil Conservation Act, as amended.

Name (Owner or Tenant) _____ Address _____

Community _____ County _____

Acres in Farm in 1936 _____

Location or Legal Description of Farm _____

Name of Landlord (if any) _____

Address of Landlord (if any) _____

Name of Agent (if any) _____

Address of Agent (if any) _____

This registration card should not commit a producer to make application for a grant nor should the failure to sign this card bar a producer from obtaining a grant.

The card would be filled out at any time. Most of them would be signed at the meeting where the community committee is elected. Names and addresses would become the first mailing list for association. A farm operator in 1936 and a landlord owning land in the community would be eligible to sign the card and become members of the Association.

2. The second point considered was the advisability of having a work sheet or some similar instrument.

Recommendations of the committees on bases and landlord tenant relationships have a definite bearing upon the action of this committee in connection with this matter. In order to report progress, it was assumed by this committee that:

1. Conditions upon which grants will be made will be drawn up for the country as a whole, for regions of the country, for states, counties, and individual farms.
2. There must be a starting point, or base, either historical or appraised, from which a soil conservation program can progress.
3. Individual farmers will ask for help in figuring out how the conservation program can be practically applied to their individual farms, and how much payment they may receive for performance.
4. As a basis for operating the program within the county, the Association will need a written record of its relationship with each individual who participates.

It is therefore recommended that two instruments be prepared and used, one called a Work Sheet and the other a Certificate of Performance and Application for Grant. The Work Sheet should be considered as a record between the producers and their Association and should be prepared in simple form, clearly understandable by all committeemen, clerks, and producers. Briefly, it should include:

1. Identification, such as number, name, address, acreage, location, etc.
2. Such basic data as recommended by this group and approved by the Secretary.

3. A map of the land involved.
4. Necessary statements regarding the conservation program for the farm during the current year and in the future.
5. Affirmation by the producers that statements are correct.
6. Adjustment by the Association.

The Certificate of Performance and Application for Grant should be considered as a statement to the Secretary regarding the case. It should include:

1. A statement of such facts as requested by the Secretary as necessary under the Act determined on the farm by representatives of the Association.
2. Application of the producers for payment under the Act.
3. Certification by the Association that the statements are accurate and that the producer has met, either completely or in part, the conditions under which payment can be made under the act.

Respectfully submitted March 6, 1936
Phil Smith, Mo. Chairman,
Elton Lux, Nebr. Secretary.

Regional Conference on Proposed Program
under
Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act

Chicago, Illinois
March 5, 6, 7

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON
LANDLORD AND TENANT PAYMENTS

L. M. Vogler, Hope, Indiana - Chairman
Guy W. Miller, Columbus, O. - Secretary
A. S. Marshall, Forbes, N. D.
Earl Bunge, Waverly, Kans.
H. E. Hazen, Donnellson, Iowa
Joseph Fulkerson, Jerseyville, Ill.
Francis Johnson, Des Moines, Iowa

David Meeker, Columbia, Mo.
C. W. McDonald, Ames, Iowa
A. M. Eberle, Brookings, S. D.
W. B. Benning, Lincoln, Nebr.
J. E. Hill, Springfield, Ill.
W. H. Lloyd, Cleveland, O.
S. R. Guard, Spencer, Ind.

Committee #7 on "Division of Payments between Tenant and Landlord and Definition of Farming Unit" was asked to submit recommendations on the following for the year of 1936.

(a) Division of Payments.

1. Between Cash Tenant and Landlord: Committee recommends that all payments go to the tenant.
2. Between Fixed Commodity Tenant and Landlord: Committee recommends that all payments go to the tenant.
3. Between Purchaser by Land Contract, or Fixed Commodity Payment and Owner: Committee recommends that all payments go to the purchaser.
4. Between Share Tenant and Owner: Committee recommends that payments be shared as crops harvested in 1936 are shared in the terms of the lease or agreement. Where crops are split in different proportion, a weighted average of the 1936 crop acres shared determines the division of payments.
5. Between Share Tenant with Cash Payment for Hay and Pasture and Landlord: Committee recommends that any compensation, either maintenance or conversion, on the cash rented portion of the land shall go all to the tenant and on the share rented portion of the land shall be shared as in the terms of the lease or agreement with the same qualifications as in #4.
6. Between Managing Share Tenant and Landlord: (Of minor importance in this area - no recommendations)

7. Between Share Cropper and Landlord: (Of minor importance in this area - no recommendations)

(b) Definition of Farming Unit.

As a basis of setting up standards of performance, checking compliance and determining grants, the committee recommends that a farm shall be considered as:

1. One or more tracts of land under the same ownership (rented for cash or fixed commodity payment shall be considered as if owned) and operated in 1936 as a single farming unit by a common operator shall be considered as a farm.
2. Two or more tracts of land under the same ownership and operated in 1936 as separate farming units shall be considered as separate farms.
3. Two or more tracts of land under separate ownership, even though operated in 1936 as a single farming unit by a common operator, shall be considered as separate farms for application and appraisal for a base, but may be grouped as a unit for compliance. (The operator would be permitted to place any or all of the soil conserving crops in a rotated farming unit on any of the tracts composing that farming unit). Each signer to the application for a grant, however, agrees not to decrease in the aggregate the soil conserving crops on any other land owned, operated or controlled by him in any one county. The division of payments between landlords and tenant shall be based on the crop acres of the participating ownership tracts of the farm operating unit with consideration given to the quality of the land.

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Regional Conference on Proposed Program
under
SOIL CONSERVATION AND DOMESTIC ALLOTMENT ACT

Chicago, Illinois
March 5, 6, 7

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON
ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURE - NATIONAL, STATE AND COUNTY

Fred Wallace, Kearney, Neb. - Chairman	E. A. Eckert, Mascoutah, Ill.
W. R. Ronald, Mitchell, S. D.	John Vesecky, Salina, Kans.
Lee M. Gentry, Oregon, Ill.	J. H. Skinner, Lafayette, Ind.
C. W. Stickney, Elk River, Minn.	W. H. Brokaw, Lincoln, Nebr.
N. H. Hodgson, Little River, Kans.	J. C. Spitler, Urbana, Ill.
Howard Shirkey, Richmond, Mo.	N. D. Gorman, Fargo, N. D.
H. G. Bolstad, Dawson, Minn.	Roy Murray, Des Moines, Iowa
Robert Dailey, Flandreau, S. D.	

STATE SOIL CONSERVATION ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

Be it recommended that a temporary state soil conservation administrative committee, which shall serve until such time as the state legislature shall create an administrative agency, shall be appointed by the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, consisting of not more than five members. A majority of which shall be farmers, and be it further recommended that there be advisory members, from the state agricultural extension service, the division of crop estimates, and soil conservation service.

The state soil conservation administrative committee shall recognize the state agricultural extension service as responsible for the educational work in connection with the soil conservation program.

TEMPORARY COUNTY COMMITTEE

A temporary county committee of not more than seven members shall be set up in each county. This committee shall consist of the chairman of existing county allotment committees, and the chairman of the county program planning committee, or other members of such committees selected by them. This committee shall be subject to the approval of the state soil conservation administrative committee. In the counties where allotment committees, or program planning committees do not now exist, county committees shall be appointed by the state soil conservation administrative committee.

If in the judgment of the temporary county committee, community committees are deemed necessary to carry on education work

within the communities, such committees shall be appointed by the temporary county committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS PERTINENT TO ORGANIZATION
OF PERMANENT COUNTY AND COMMUNITY SOIL
CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

It is recommended that those who are eligible to cooperate in a soil conservation program elect a community committee of three and not more than six members. The chairman of this community committee shall be a member of the county soil conservation board. The county board shall elect such officers as may be necessary.

Be it further recommended that the services of the State and Federal statistician be available to the State Soil Conservation Administrative Committee in furnishing statistical information necessary to carry out the program.

Be it further recommended that the permanent organization plan provide that the members of the State Administrative Board be selected from among persons nominated or suggested by the County Committees or the various State-wide farm organizations, and state agricultural extension service.

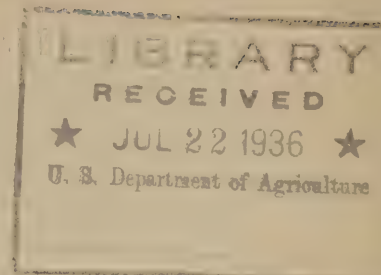
We further recommend that the greatest amount of power and responsibility consistent with efficient and unified operation be given to the State Board and the County and Community Committees, and that the State Board be the sole agency through which all administrative orders from the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture or his representative shall be effectuated.

Moved that we approve the report as a whole.

Moved that we thank Chairman and Secretary for their courtesy and patience in handling the work of the Committee.

CHICAGO CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL
CONSERVATION FOR 1936

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PROCEDURE TO BE USED
IN SELECTING FARMS TO BE SURVEYED



The following general rules are suggested:

1. By whom selected.

In each State the committee in charge of conducting the survey shall be primarily responsible for selecting the areas to be surveyed; their selection shall, however, be subject to the approval of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

In making their selections it is expected that the committee in charge will utilize the assistance of those having a technical knowledge of soils, type of farming, erosion and depletion problems, and local conditions to be met.

2. Survey should cover blocks of farms.

For the reasons discussed in a separate statement attached, the farms surveyed should, so far as practicable, include all of the farms in solid blocks of country. In the case of farms lying partly within and partly outside of the area being surveyed, the rule should be to include the entire area of farms if the residence of the operator and a material portion of the farm is included in the area surveyed.

3. Farms to be included.

Since there are practically no croppers in this group of States and few suburban or part time farming areas will be included in the limited number of areas selected for enumeration, the Census definition of a farm should, in general, be followed, except that acreage records should be secured for idle farms and for other extensive lands which are being grazed or which might be used for agricultural purposes or grazing at some future time.

In the case of farms for which complete information cannot be secured (as where information is refused, recent change in tenants, etc.) the rule should be to secure as much information as can be secured on a reasonably accurate basis, from observation, inquiry of neighbors, and other sources.

4. Size of areas to be surveyed.

In most of the areas surveyed the farms will show considerable variation in size, condition, equipment, character of road, tenancy, type of farming and rotation followed, and often in topography, slope, type of soil, natural fertility and degree of erosion. Operators will vary in age, ability and financial resources and there will be considerable variation in the amount of family labor available. Because of this diversity it is probable that close to 100 records will be needed to secure a sample that is really typical of any area and even this number will be too small to give satisfactory stability to the averages for selected groups of farms, such as those within certain size limits or following certain methods of farming. On the other hand, the number of records per State that can be financed from Federal funds is small, not much over 1/4 of 1 per cent of the farms, and if large areas are selected the number of areas per State will be too small to be representative. Probably in most States of this group the areas selected should include 50 to 150 farms, or areas ranging from about half of a small township, where farms are small, to a full township or more in the Great Plains area where farms are large. Smaller areas may be justified in some of the very small States or in States, like California, where the majority of the leading crops are grown on highly specialized farms.

If in some of the States of this group it is found that to adequately sample certain specialized or industrialized regions several small areas should be enumerated, it is suggested that the rule of larger areas be adhered to in the more generalized farming areas.

5. Selection of areas.

In the States of this group the areas selected for survey should be limited to areas which are typical of the more important type-of-farming areas. They should be typical in the size of farms included, in the type or types of soil included, in topography and erosion conditions, and in character of population. They also should be reasonably representative of weather conditions and economic conditions during 1935.

Where a type-of-farming area is dominated by a single type of soil, the area selected may be all on the prevailing type of soil, but in a rolling country a sample hardly would be typical unless it included portions of both hill and valley soils.

In general, it would be best to exclude areas dominated by one or more very large farms and areas which include large institutional farms or numbers of highly specialized farms.

In checking to determine whether or not areas tentatively selected are typical, the acreage records taken by assessors will be found helpful in Indiana, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, Kansas, and possibly South Dakota.

In other States of this group the 1930 Census records for minor civil divisions and the 1935 Census records by counties will be found helpful.

Where practicable, it is likely to be found highly desirable to give preference to areas for which aerial maps already have been made by the Soil Conservation Service, or, secondly, to areas which are listed to be mapped. (Where no such areas are found suitable, some changes in the selection of the areas to be mapped by the Soil Conservation Service may be possible.)

Where aerial maps are not available it would seem desirable, other things being equal, to give preference to areas for which soil maps are available, or, secondly, to areas for which topographic maps are available.

W. E. Grimes, Chairman
(Kansas)

G. L. Fuller
(Soil Conservation Service)

J. I. Falconer
(Ohio)

A. J. Surratt
(Agric. Stat. - Illinois)

C. W. Crickman
(Bureau of Agric. Econ.)

J. B. Shepard
(Bureau of Agric. Econ.)

SEPARATE STATEMENT GIVING REASONS FOR SELECTING
SOLID BLOCKS OF FARMS FOR STUDY IN PREFERENCE TO
SELECTING SCATTERED REPRESENTATIVE FARMS

The principal factors causing the Committee to recommend the surveying of solid blocks of farms instead of more scattered or selected farms are the following:

While scattered farms, properly selected, probably would be more representative of a given type-of-farming area than any solid block of farms would be, normal bias in selection would tend to make such a sample less representative of the area, and make a composite of such sample much less representative of the United States as a whole.

In particular, selected farms would be likely to exclude many of the conditions to be met in applying the program and they might not provide an indication of the diversity of farms within a given area.

In most States of this group more or less data will be available to show how the whole of a type-of-farming area compares in crop proportions, etc., with an included area surveyed, provided the area surveyed is large enough to be representative of a township. With this information, some of the averages for a type-of-farming area could be estimated more accurately from a sample representing a known area (which can be seen and visualized) than from a survey of selected farms representing some individual's preconceived understanding of average conditions.

Although the survey is designed to measure the soil conservation problem on individual farms, the group totals will be extensively used for designing the program, determining rates of compensation, adjusting regulations to fit the conditions in the various parts of the country, and for various other purposes not now foreseen. For many of these purposes the published totals for selected areas which can be shown on a map, individually described and visited by those interested, would be more useful than totals for scattered farms grouped by type-of-farming areas, particularly as there always would be some question as to how the individual farms were selected.

The question of the best methods of maintaining soil fertility will not be settled by this survey. On the contrary it probably will bring to light many new problems on which additional information is needed.

For this reason it seems altogether probable that at least some of the areas surveyed this summer will be surveyed again either next year or at some future date when new information on the progress of erosion control and on soil conservation or abandonment is needed, or when money is available for a more precise determination of average income and expenses, or of changes in the type of farming being followed. The value of subsequent surveys will be greatly increased if they can be made to cover the same identical area with minimum disturbance from shifts in the boundaries of individual farms. Insofar as re-surveys are probable there are distinct advantages in enumerating the farms in solid blocks of fair size.

Regional Conference on Proposed Program
under
Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act

Chicago, Illinois
March 5, 6, 7

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON
PROGRAM PLANNING FOR 1937

Xenophon Caverno, Canaan, Mo. - Chairman	M. W. Thatcher, St. Paul, Minn.
H. W. Mumford, Urbana, Ill.	Chas. A. Ewing, Chicago, Ill.
A. N. Heggen, Des Moines, Ia.	H. C. Ramsower, Columbus, Ohio
J. Blaine Shaum, Tarkio, Mo.	Don Anderson, Madison, Wis.
Charles Flory, Schickley, Nebr.	W. H. Grimes, Manhattan, Kans.
William Settle, Indianapolis, Ind.	John A. Slipper, Columbus, Ohio
H. O. Wells, Lancaster, Wis.	Berry H. Akers, St. Paul, Minn.
Clark Van Schoik, Hilliards, Ohio	

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE ON POLICY

Your committee recommends that the program for 1936 and its administration should avoid incorporating any plans which may prejudice farmers or the public against the basic soundness and necessity of not only inaugurating a widespread soil conservation program, but of maintaining it through the years to come.

Your committee further believes that the experience gained in 1936 will furnish facts which will point the direction and suggest the method for making any minor adjustments that need to be made to meet national objectives on the one hand and on the other, the varying conditions that exist in the different states, and further, that especially for 1937, as much opportunity as practicable be given the various states to try out plans which seem to them best suited to meet the conditions of their respective states.

This committee believes that it is of great importance that every means consistent with the Act be used to open market outlets for livestock and dairy products.

Wm. Settle, Chairman	- Indiana
J. B. Shaum	- Missouri
A. R. Whitson	- Wisconsin
C. Von Schoik	- Ohio
C. Flory	- Nebraska
H. W. Mumford	- Illinois

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH

Your committee recommends for the consideration of the Agricultural Experiment Station and for the United States Department of Agriculture that further cooperative research be undertaken similar to Regional Agricultural Adjustment Project and the County Planning Project.

The purpose of this research is:

1. To determine desirable adjustments in the agriculture of particular counties, type-of-farming areas, states, regions, and for the Nation as a whole from the point of view of soil conservation and good farm management.
2. To develop a practical method for rapidly determining soil conserving systems of farming and farming practices for a large number of farms of a given size and type and under varied conditions of cultural practices, which can be used by Community and County Committees to determine standards of performance for individual farms from the point of view of soil conservation and good farm management.
3. To provide the Secretary of Agriculture with material and criteria for evaluating and coordinating plans and proposals submitted by the various States into an effective national adjustment and conservation program.

It is suggested that this proposed study be developed as a the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and the State Experiment Stations. The cooperating agencies include the State Experiment Stations, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, the Planning and proposed Regional Divisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, the Soil Conservation Service, the Agricultural Extension Service, and other persons and agencies such as the State Land Planning Consultants in the several States, the Forest Service, the Taylor Grazing Service, the Bureau of Plant Industry, and the Land Utilization Division of the Resettlement Administration. Coordination as between the State and Federal agencies could be provided for through the Office of Experiment Stations.

It is expected, and this proposal is based on the assumption, that a portion of the time of the personnel of the Division of Farm Management of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and of the Soil Conservation Service will be available for this project, and that the Agricultural Adjustment Administration will aid in its financing.

It is suggested that all the interested State and Federal agencies, cooperating with and aided by farmer committees, be used in conducting this project.

If the project is to be conducted in 1936, plans for the project should be completed and approved not later than May 1.

W. E. Grimes, Chairman	- Kansas
O. R. Johnson	- Missouri
P. E. Johnston	- Illinois
D. Anderson	- Wisconsin
E. B. Hill	- Michigan
G. E. Hendrix	- Nebraska

JUL 11 1936

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL CROPS

Your committee on special crops, appointed to consider the relationship of the program to special crops, including application and conditions of payment, respectfully submits the following report:

It was decided by the committee to include as special crops in the North Central states the following:

1. Sugar Beets
2. Flax
3. Tobacco

Your committee has designated these crops as requiring special and segregated treatment under the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act and its administration because of the peculiar cultural conditions involved in the production of these crops, and because of the economic conditions affecting their marketing.

1. Sugar Beets

In view of the fact that sugar is a non-surplus product, this committee recommends to the Secretary of Agriculture that Sugar Beets be designated a special agricultural crop, requiring a different program than surplus crops. We recommend:

- (a) That the benefits of the program administered by the Secretary of Agriculture for sugar beet farmers for 1934 and 1935 be continued on the same basis for the sugar beet crop of 1936, as announced by the Secretary of Agriculture November 21, 1935.
- (b) In the event that the previous recommendation cannot be adopted, we recommend that the same measures of benefits for Sugar Beet farmers be continued for 1936 under the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, using the former program as a "yard stick", and that consideration be given to the development of a program on the basis of a Domestic Allotment plan.

2. Flax

Flaxseed, from which linseed oil is derived, is on an import basis, the domestic crop competes with foreign flaxseed on which there is a duty, and with foreign competing drying oils, or oil producing seeds, now being admitted duty free.

Any encouragement given to the possibility of increasing the acreage of domestically produced flaxseed will divert land from spring wheat to flax, especially if such en-

couragement makes up for the greater cost of production per acre of flaxseed as compared with wheat. Good flax production requires better farm practices on the whole than does small grain production. Increasing the supply of domestically produced flaxseed insures a domestic supply to American crushers, thus lending greater security to the employment of American labor. Therefore, we have recommended that flax be designated a special crop and we recommend that the Secretary be urged to encourage the production of flax and render such assistance to the flax producers as may be possible under the acts of Congress. In order to effectuate this objective, we further recommend that a program for flax be developed on the basis of a Domestic Allotment plan.

3. Tobacco

Since tobacco in the North Central States is produced in very restricted areas and on land of relatively high value, and requires special and unusual cultural practices, and because a substantial portion of the cigar leaf tobacco consumed in the United States is imported, your committee has recommended that tobacco be designated a special crop. We approve the policy which has been followed by the A.A.A. in its treatment of the tobacco grower and further recommend that in the application of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act serious consideration be given to a domestic allotment plan for the cigar leaf tobacco grower.

In addition, your committee recommends that where positive and constructive aid not contrary to the purposes of the Soil Conservation Act may be rendered to special crops through marketing agreements and orders under the Agricultural Adjustment Act, such action be taken under the terms open to producers therein defined. Such action is necessarily limited to tobacco, fruits, vegetables, walnuts, etc., as set forth in the portion of the Adjustment Act which is still being administered and has not been affected by the Supreme Court decision of January 6, 1936.

We further recommend that all farmers cooperating in the conservation program engage in approved farm practices that tend to effectuate the declared purposes of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act.

Regional Conference on Proposed Program
under
Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act

Chicago, Illinois
March 5, 6, 7

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON
SPECIAL CROPS AND SPECIAL CROP PROGRAM

Chas. M. Kearney, Morrill, Neb. - Chairman
Scott Kelsey, Topeka, Kans.
E. L. Mitchell, Rochester, Indiana
Frank Oberst, Breckenridge, Mich.
M. O. Flom, Stoughton, Wis.
N. P. Hull, Lansing, Mich.
Murray D. Lincoln, Columbus, O.
L. E. Hoffman, Lafayette, Ind.
Elton Lux, Lincoln, Neb.
R. J. Baldwin, East Lansing, Mich.
Frank Brown, St. Paul, Minn.
K. L. Hatch, Madison, Wis.
J. F. Thompson, Lansing, Mich.
E. R. McIntyre, Madison, Wis.

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Regional Conference on Proposed Program
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Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act

Chicago, Illinois
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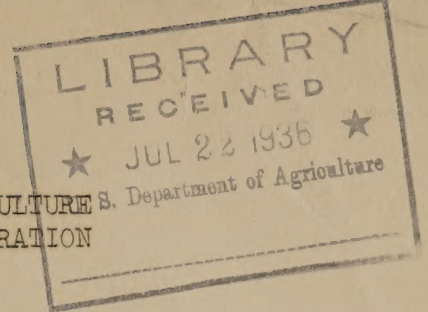
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.



June 6, 1936.

NOTIFICATION OF CONFERENCES.

This Division has arranged a series of conferences relative to the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program as it applies to multiple land owners in the North Central Region. The conferences are being held for the purpose of presenting information concerning the execution of work sheets, applications for grant, and consideration of problems arising where a person owns or operates more than one farm in the North Central Region. Any person who owns or operates more than one farm in the North Central Region is invited to attend or send representatives to these conferences. All conferences will begin promptly at 9:00 o'clock A. M., and will be held at the following places on the dates specified:

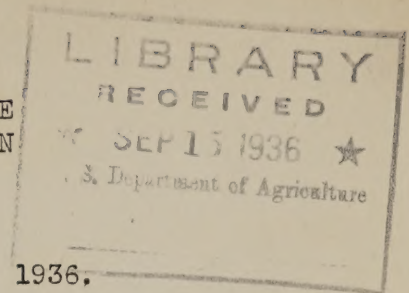
INDIANAPOLIS	-	LINCOLN HOTEL	-	FRIDAY, JUNE 12
ST. LOUIS	-	STATLER HOTEL	-	SATURDAY, JUNE 13
MINNEAPOLIS	-	NICOLLET HOTEL	-	MONDAY, JUNE 15

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. B. Thorne".

G. B. Thorne,
Director,
North Central Division.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.



September 9, 1936.

NOTIFICATION OF CONFERENCE.

In response to numerous requests this Division has arranged a two day conference at Des Moines, Iowa pertaining to the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program as it applies to multiple land owners and operators in the North Central Region. While requests for similar conferences at other places have been received, it is not deemed possible to hold any further conferences other than the one indicated herein. This conference is being held for the purpose of presenting information concerning applications for inspection, applications for payments, and consideration of problems arising where a person owns or operates more than one farm in the North Central Region. Any person who is interested in these matters is invited to attend or send representatives to this conference. The conference will be held on Friday, September 18 and Saturday, September 19 at The Fort Des Moines Hotel, Des Moines, Iowa. The conference will begin promptly at 9:30 A. M. on September 18, 1936.

G. B. Thorne
G. B. Thorne,
Director,
North Central Division.

